LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown has issued a statement about the July 17 shootings in Baton Rouge:

"Sunday is a day of peace, a day of prayer for most. Yesterday in Baton Rouge, that peace and prayer was shattered when a misguided gunman took aim at first responders from the Baton Rouge Police Department and the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, killing three officers and wounding three others. The shooter also died in the exchange of gunfire at the Airline Highway scene.

"Today's headline really says it all: "Senseless." Now is the time for dialog, outreach and understanding in Baton Rouge. We cannot let hate determine what happens. As Gov. John Bel Edwards has said, we have to be better than that. For those of us engaged in service to the state, being better begins by doing the best job we can for the citizens of Louisiana while being mindful of the stresses everyone is experiencing.

"If we communicate with each other, listen to our leaders and stay true to our ideals, we can come through these trying times as one community, united."